

REMARKS/ARGUMENTSClaims 12-39 and 43-54:

In an Office Action mailed January 24, 2005, the Examiner rejected then-pending claims 12-39 and 43-55 as allegedly unpatentable. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections are moot in light of the cancellation of claims 12-29 and 43-54.

New Claims 55-90:

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter new claims 55-90. Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 55-90 are fully supported in the specification as-filed at least at original claims 1-38 and at FIGS. 1-5. As shown in FIG. 1, a connector 50 has a dielectric body 60 with a plurality of projections extending laterally outward from external surfaces of each of first and second portions 62, 64 of the dielectric body 60. The plurality of projections are arranged to engage an internal surface of a connector housing. When assembled, as shown in FIG. 3, the plurality of projections engage an internal surface of a connector housing 121, 122.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 55-90 are not unpatentable over any of the previously cited references US 5,675,302 (Howard); US 5,703,599 (Quan); or US 6,366,185 (Keesey). Applicants respectfully submit that none of Howard, Quan or Keesey, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest at least the following limitations:

“ . . . a dielectric body with first and second longitudinally opposed and laterally offset portions and an internal cavity, said dielectric body including a plurality of projections extending laterally outward from external surfaces of each of said first and second portions, wherein the plurality of projections are arranged to engage an internal surface of a connector housing”

as recited in independent claim 55 and incorporated into dependent claims 56-65;

“ . . . said dielectric body including a plurality of projections extend laterally outward from external surfaces of each of said first and second longitudinally

opposed and laterally offset portions . . . and a connector housing having an internal surface, wherein the plurality of plurality of projections engage the internal surface of the connector housing. “
as recited in independent claim 66 and incorporated into dependent claims 67-77; or
“ . . . wherein a plurality of projections extend laterally from an external surface of the dielectric body;
disposing the connector within a connector housing, the connector housing comprising an internal surface;
engaging the plurality of projections with the internal surface of the connector housing”

as recited in independent claim 78 and incorporated into dependent claims 79-90. Applicants respectfully submit that each of the dependent claims 56-65, 67-77 and 79-90 include additional limitations that serve to distinguish those claims further over the cited references.

Conclusion:

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the amendments and allow pending claims 55-90.

Respectfully submitted,



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